Commission on Affordable Health Plans for Small Businesses and Families

July 18 Meeting Oskaloosa, Iowa

Process Goals for Meeting

- Clarify each commissioner's view of what the commission needs to address
- Begin communication and understanding of what the other commissioners want regarding health care and health care plans
- Begin to clarify what key issues the commission needs to address

Themes From Other States

- Each commissioner has something to offer
- You have to build a foundation for the commission's work---examine the problem and the values that guide you
- It is worth the effort to create as broad a consensus as possible
- Developing consensus takes patience, persistence and passion

Ground Rules

- Listen
- Participate and be verbal
- Represent your group, yet recognize that you're part of a larger picture
- Be open to others' ideas
- End on time

Exercise One

- What's good in lowa about health care/plans?
 - Introduce yourself to the commission and explain what you like best
 - Keep it brief---30 seconds or less

- Step 1
- Each person decides the top two problems that the commission needs to address
 - Write each problem on a note card with a marker
 - Keep it brief---5 words or less

- Step 2
- Pair up with another commissioner
- Describe your choices (and reasons) to each other

- Step 3
- Form groups of 5-6
- Go to a discussion table and organize the cards into theme or issue areas
- Write a new card (different background color) for each theme or issue area

Step 4

- Put the cards on the wall in columns for each theme
- Organize and sort for the whole commission
- Step 5
 - Overall discussion

- Identifying Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats and "Sleeping Dogs"
- Looking at pluses and minuses both in lowa and on a larger scale
- Sleeping dogs are the items people tend to avoid

- IDonna Reed Group. Hatch, Upmeyer, Concannon, Carlyle, Aschenbrenner (Strengths)
- Identify strengths in lowa that will help address the health care/health care plans priorities. Look at resources, procedures and performance. Example: high quality of medical and dental care

- Buffalo Bill Group. Smith, Behn, Newton, Laue, Sporer, Shors (Weaknesses)
- Identify weaknesses in lowa that must be addressed regarding health care/health care plans priorities. Look at resources, procedures and performance. Example: low funding for public health initiatives.

- Ann Landers Group. Bolkcom, Hoffman, Voss, Swisher, DeBruin, IHA rep (Opportunities)
- Identify the environment beyond lowa (nationwide and worldwide) and find the opportunities in the political, economic, social and technological trends. Example: increase in information on and access to the Internet.

- Grant Wood Group. McKibben, Foege, McCully, Parrish, Teeling, Kuhle (Threats)
- Identify the environment beyond lowa (nationwide and worldwide) and find the threats in the political, economic, social and technological trends. Example: funding needs for other areas like Iraq, education and infrastructure improvements.

- Glenn Miller Group. Ragan, Jacoby, Fuller Treinen, Kniff, Kresowik (Sleeping Dogs)
- Identify the "things no one wants to talk about" regarding health care or health care plans in lowa. Example: lowa trends on increased obesity
- Sleeping dogs are the items people tend to avoid

- Identify facilitator and reporter/recorder
- Discuss your assignment (example: strengths) thoroughly, then look at other assignments
- Bruce will provide time announcements
- Group reports

Exercise 4 /What Do We Want?

- Return to your groups (reed, Bill, Landers, Wood and Miller
- Identify facilitator and recorder/reporter
- Each person writes down three values/principles that guide his or her view of what commission needs to do

Exercise 4 /What Do We Want?

- Discuss each person's choices
- Look for themes, areas of agreement and tensions
- Bruce will make time announcements
- Group reports

Exercise 5 / Strategic Issues Identification

Entire commission examines priority themes, SWOT and guiding principles and values to pick 3-4 strategic issues

Exercise 6 / Strategic Issues Working Groups

- Choose the group with the issue you most want to discuss
- Appoint facilitator and reporter/recorder

Exercise 6 /Strategic Issues Working Groups

The group discusses the issue and determines:

- -the most important initiative
- -the easiest initiative to implement (low hanging fruit)
- -the most creative initiative
- -the most controversial initiative
- -the underlying conflicts that must be resolved to address the issue
- -the information or advice that must be obtained to address the issue

Exercise 6 /Strategic Issues Working Groups

- Bruce will make time announcements
- Group reports

Exercise 7/Wrap-up

- Commissioners describe the most helpful comment they heard from another commission member during the day.
- Find one other commissioner to call before the next meeting to better understand each other's views. Exchange phone numbers and make initial plans to talk.